

AFFTC-PA-12286



C-Band Working Group Update

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AIR FORCE FLIGHT TEST CENTER
EDWARDS AFB, CA

2/20/13

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

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1. REPORT DATE (20-02-2013)		2. REPORT TYPE Technical		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) 3/12 -- 5/12
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE C-Band Working Group Update				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER MIPR
				5b. GRANT NUMBER
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER
6. AUTHOR(S) Steve O'Neal				5d. PROJECT NUMBER
				5e. TASK NUMBER
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Jacobs Corporation, Steve.ONeal.ctr@edwards.af.mil				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER AFFTC-PA-12286
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Tom Young, EA				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) N/A
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release A: distribution is unlimited.				
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES CA: Air Force Flight Test Center Edwards AFB CA CC: 012100				
14. ABSTRACT As a way to alleviate today's Spectrum congestion by augmenting operations using C-Band T&E mission execution delays caused by L/S spectrum assignments constraints Improve mission capabilities with services not possible using current L/S allocations "Use it or lose it" ... Spectrum not being used is always a prime target for others who want additional spectrum Preparing for future spectrum auctions by experimenting with C-Band				
15. SUBJECT TERMS C-Band Working Group Update, Spectrum, Telemetry, L-band, S-band, C-band				
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF: Unclassified		17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT None	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 15	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON 412 TENG/EN (Tech Pubs)
a. REPORT Unclassified		b. ABSTRACT Unclassified	c. THIS PAGE Unclassified	19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code) 661-277-8615

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C-Band Working Group Update

Steve O'Neal 412 TW/TMGGB

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Agenda

- C-Band Overview
- Spectrum Use Trends
- Why Use C-Band
- C-Band Current Utilization
- C-Band Implementation Resources
- Conclusions

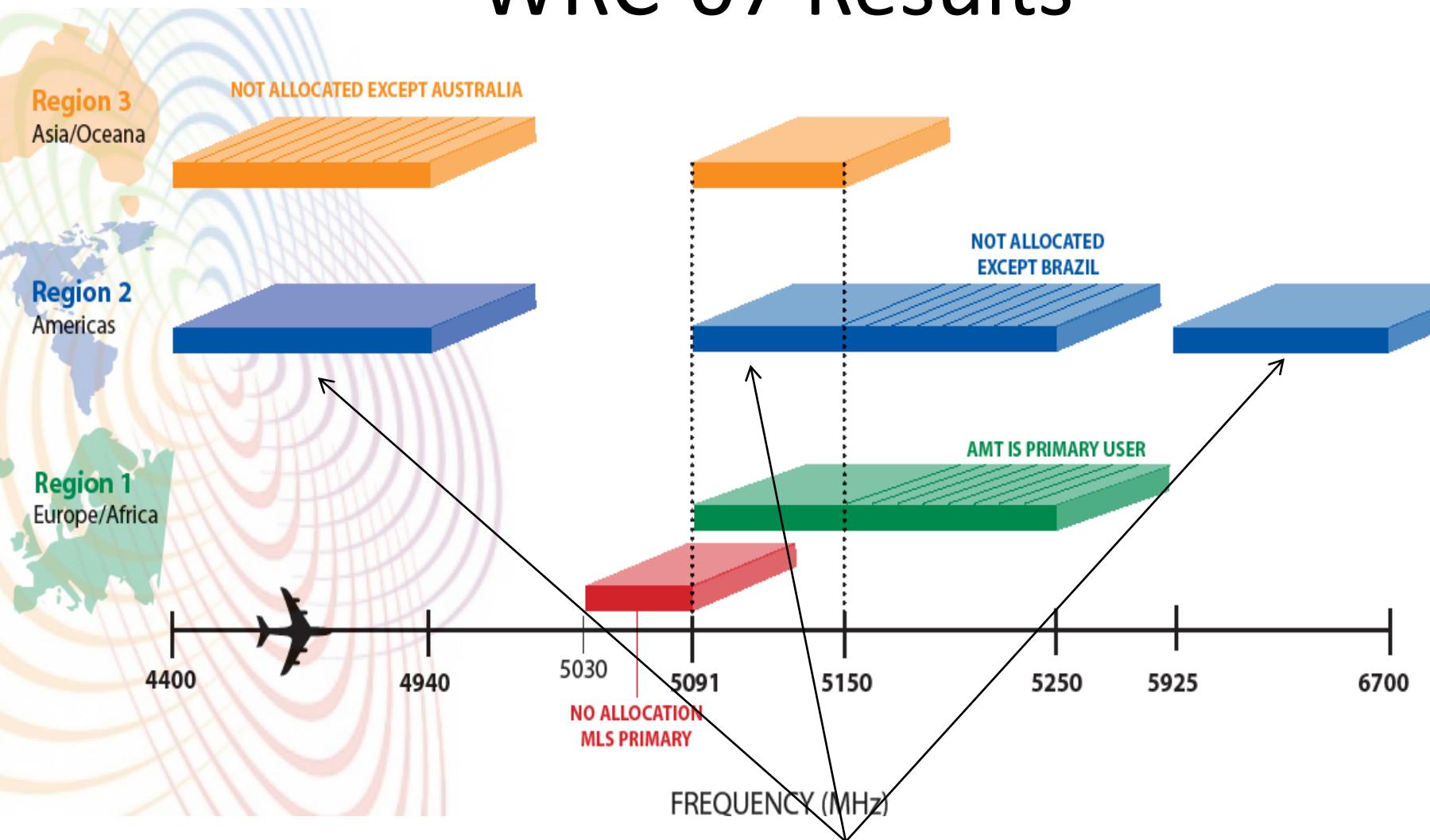
C-Band Overview

- **World Radio Conference (WRC) 2007 approved a C-Band allocation for “Airborne Mobile Telemetry” (AMT)**
 - 4400 to 4940 MHz ITU Region 2
 - 5091 to 5150 MHz All ITU Regions
 - 5150 to 5250 MHz ITU Region 1
 - 5925 to 6700 MHz ITU Region 2
- **IRIG STANDARD 106-11, Chapter 2 defined C-Band as**
 - Lower C-band 4400 - 4940 MHz
 - Middle C-band 5091 - 5150 MHz
 - Upper C-band 5925 - 6700 MHz

Reference: http://www.wsmr.army.mil/RCCsite/Documents/106-11_Telemetry%20Standards/chapter2.pdf

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WRC-07 Results



1.4 GHz of RF Spectrum Awarded to Support Aeronautical Telemetry

Spectrum & Data Rate Trends



Now: F-35/JSF

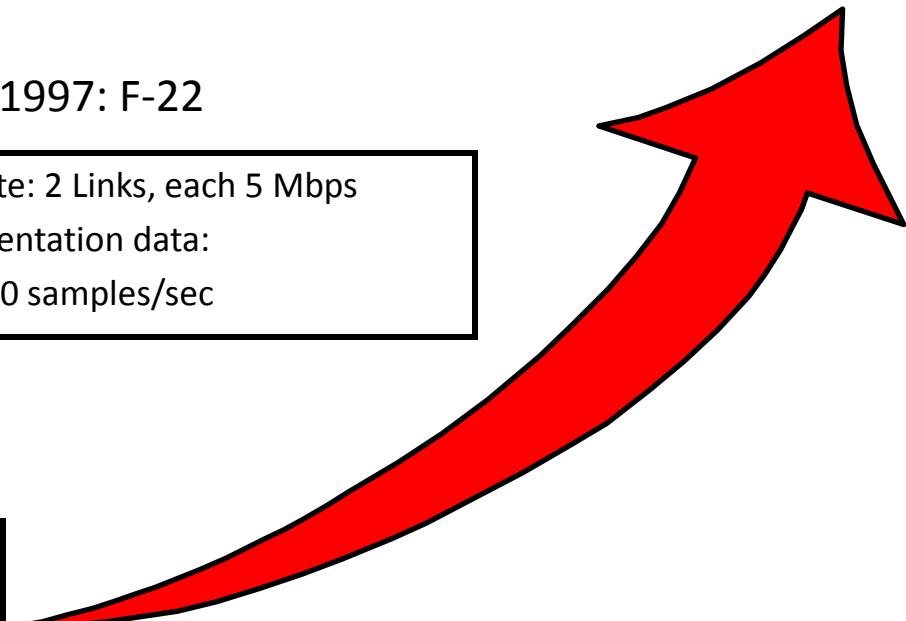
- Data Rate: Links potentially capable of 14 Mbps
- Each test mission can generate ~ 1 TB of data, most of which is recorded

1997: F-22

- Data Rate: 2 Links, each 5 Mbps
- Instrumentation data:
 - 800 samples/sec

1986: F-15

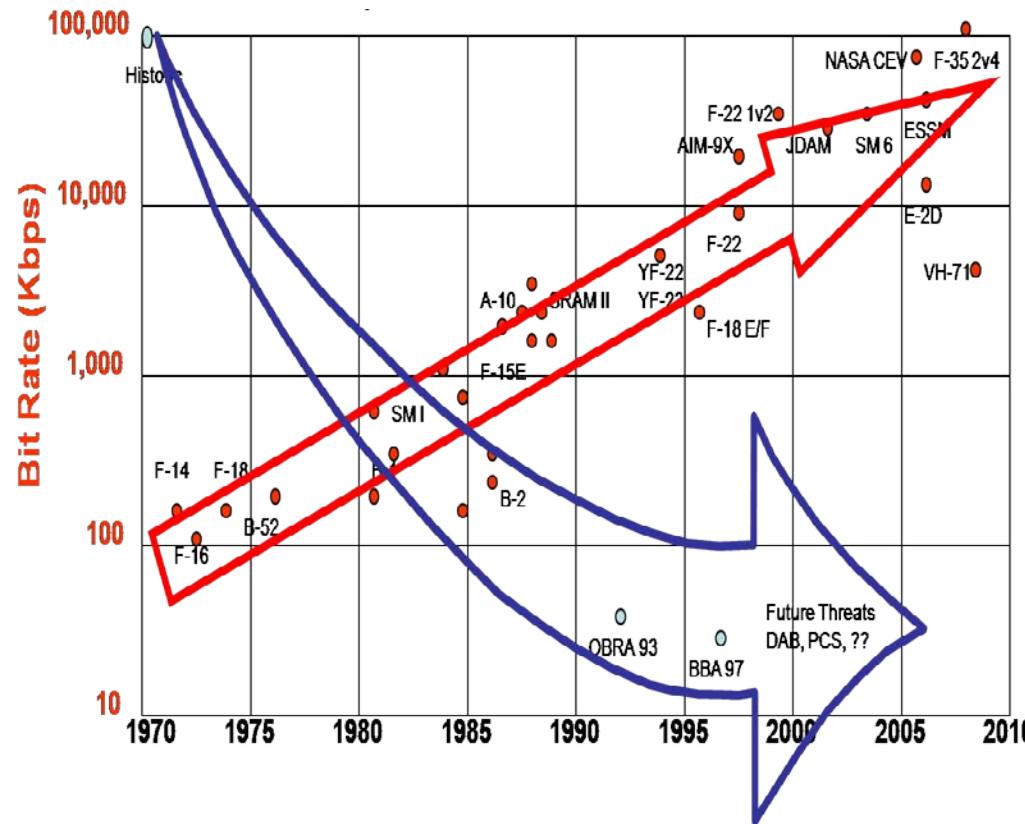
- Data Rate: 1 Link, 256 kbps
- Instrumentation data:
 - 20 samples/sec



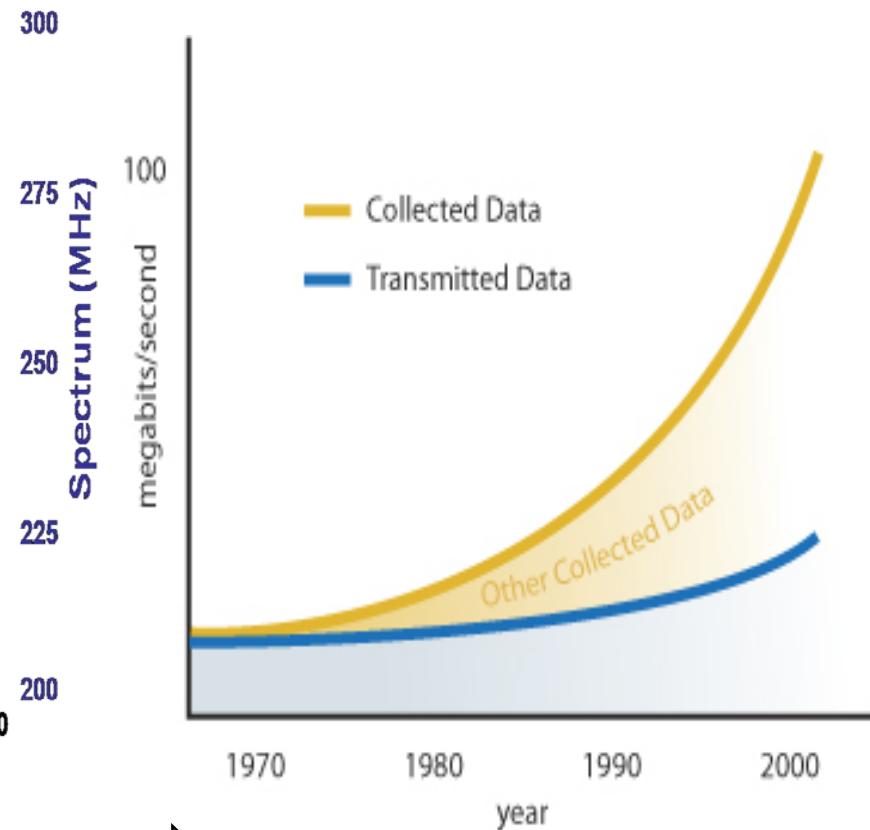
Increasingly complex systems have exponentially increased data rate

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Spectrum & Data Rate Trends



Decreasing spectrum availability &
Increasing system complexity



Leads to

Large amounts of data being
recorded onboard the test
platform

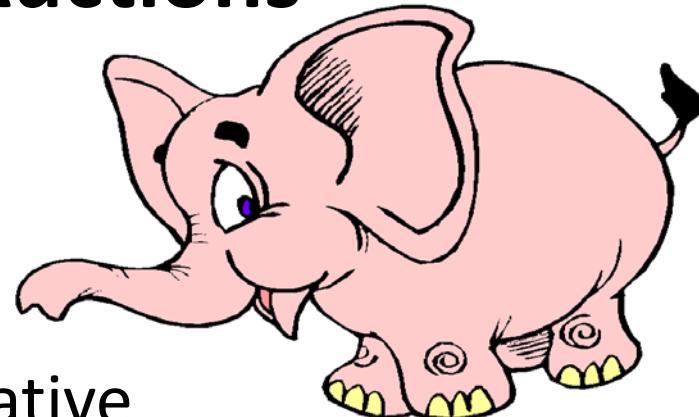
Why use C-Band Now ?

- As a way to alleviate today's Spectrum congestion by augmenting operations using C-Band
 - T&E mission execution delays caused by L/S spectrum assignments constraints
 - Improve mission capabilities with services not possible using current L/S allocations
 - “Use it or loose it”... Spectrum not being used is always a prime target for others who want additional spectrum
- Preparing for future spectrum auctions by experimenting with C-Band

The “Elephant in the Room”

Future Spectrum Auctions

- Pending Policy & Regulatory actions
 - FCC “*National Broadband Plan*”
 - President Obama’s 500 MHz Initiative
- 1755 to 1850 MHz relocation report just released
- Other DOD Spectrum allocations may (will?) be proposed for auctions
- Spectrum Auctions are here to stay



Can C-Band be used NOW?

- Short answer YES
 - On any DOD *Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB)*
 - National Telecommunications and Information Administration Agency (NTIA) Regulations, Paragraph 7.11 “Use of Frequencies by Certain Experimental Stations”
 - On any non-DOD MRTFB using “Temporary” assignments
 - FCC currently working with NTIA to formalize allocations allowing permanent assignments in *Manual of Regulations and Procedures for Federal Radio Frequency Management (Redbook)*

Who is using C-Band now ?

- United States Navy
 - PAX River
 - Carrier Suitability Test telemetry
 - Rotary Wing testing telemetry
- United States Air Force
 - Edwards AFB
 - Test Pilot School support telemetry
 - Foreign Military Sales support telemetry
 - Eglin AFB
 - Ground mobile target vehicles video links

C-Band Implementation Resources

- Working Group(s)
 - Range Spectrum Requirements Working Group
 - **Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) C-Band Working Group**
 - Missile Defense Agency C-Band Working Group
 - Raytheon C-Band Working Group
- TRMC C-Band Working Group
 - Monthly Telecons discuss current C-Band test results and Range Peer C-Band activities
 - Bi-Annual Face to Face Meeting held day prior to RCC/Telemetry Group meeting
 - On Line Information Portal (DOD ONLY)

C-Band Implementation Resources cont.

C-Band Deployment experts

- AFFTC/Edwards AFB
 - Kip Temple, Instrumentation Systems
 - (661) 527-1604
 - Robert Selbrede, Range Systems
 - (661) 527-1179
- AAC/Eglin
 - Nathan King, Range Systems
 - (850) 882-3248
- NAVAIR/PAX
 - Robert Myers, Range Systems
 - (301) 342-8739
 - Bruce Johnson, Instrumentation Systems
 - (301) 342-3816

Conclusions

- C-Band Spectrum Assignments to support aeronautical Applications are available **NOW !**
- C-Band performance is very similar to S-Band
- C-Band implementation resources are available to assist anyone investigating use of C-Band to support T&E missions